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CL BY: []
CL REASON: 1.5(c)
DECL ON: X1
DRV FROM: HUM 4-82

C 43806DIRR 914923 ASP 96-5189135 MIDB
D COMET 960826 DIR-914923C0896 156 7 UPID
/ / SECRET FRP: , , , , , , ,

STAFF

CONF: CE/BOGYA INFO: CE/COPS, CE/LGL, CEDORECORD, MDSX, ODPD,
OGC/ALD, RYBAT, FILE, CE/BF, CE/BOG, CE/PLANS (5/P)

96 5189135 ASP PAGE 001
TOT: 261109Z AUG 96 DIRECTOR 914923

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STAFF 261109Z DIRECTOR 914923
TO: PRIORITY []

FROM: LIMIT CE/BOGYA INFO CE/BF, CE/BOG, C/CE/PLANS, CE/LGL,
OGC/ALD, CE/COPS

SLUGS: WNINTEL RYBAT
SUBJECT: BGFIEND CLAIMANT - HABIB AHMET KABASHI

REF: A. [] 16423 96 5116126
B. [] 11303 (1 OCT 93)
C. PER [] 11322 (6 OCT 93)

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2006

TEXT:

1. ACTION REQUIRED: PLEASE SEE BELOW.

2. IN RESPONSE TO REF A, HQS TRACED BGFIEND CLAIMANT HABIB AHMET ((KABASHI)), HIS FATHER AHMET ((KABASHI)), HIS MOTHER XHILE ((AGUSHI)), AND BROTHER ABIB AGUSHI ((KABASHI)). WE FOUND NO TRACES ON ANYONE OTHER THAN AHMET KABASHI. THE DOCUMENTS ON AHMET KABASHI THAT APPEAR TO BE MOST PERTINENT TO THIS CLAIM DATE BACK TO THE 50'S. WHILE THESE DOCUMENTS ARE BEING ORDERED AND MAY DELAY SOMEWHAT, FROM THE ABSTRACTS OF THESE DOCUMENTS IT WOULD APPEAR THAT WE MAY VERY WELL BE DEALING WITH A LEGITIMATE BGFIEND CLAIM. WILL ADVISE ONCE WE HAVE REVIEWED ALL AVAILABLE DOCUMENTATION.

2. IN THE MEANTIME, FOLLOWING IS INFORMATION IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE TO US ON AHMET KABASHI:

A. REF B REPORTED THAT THE 30 SEPT EDITION OF "GAZETA SHQIPTARE" (ALBANIAN GAZETTE) CONTAINED A FRONT PAGE ARTICLE WITH THE HEADLINE: "CIA TRIED TO OVERTHROW HOXHA", DESCRIBING THE BGFIEND PROJECT IN CONSIDERABLE DETAIL. AN INSERT IN THIS ARTICLE, DATED LINED FIER, REPORTED THAT AFTER MANY YEARS OF SEARCHING, SHAQIR ((KABASHI)) HAD RECENTLY FOUND THE REMAINS OF HIS TWO COUSINS, ILMI AND AHMET. ILMI AND AHMET WERE DESCRIBED AS AGENTS OF THE CIA WHO PARTICIPATED IN A BETRAYED MISSION IN 1951. SHAQIR ALSO DECLARED THAT HE, TOO, HAD BEEN A CIA AGENT AND HAD PARTICIPATED IN THE SAME MISSION. THE ARTICLE STATED THAT THE COUSINS WERE PARACHUTED INTO THE VILLAGE OF MJESHOV. ILMI DIED OF WOUNDS CAUSED BY HIS LANDING IN SOME ROCKS, AND AHMET'S NAME APPEARS ON A LIST OF PEOPLE EXECUTED BY THE COMMUNIST REGIME IN APRIL 1954. IT WAS ALSO STATED THAT HAMID ((MATJANI)) DIED WITH HIM. THE INSERT CONCLUDED THAT MATJANI FELL INTO A TRAP SET BY THE SIGURIMI WHICH, USING THE SECRET CIA CODES, DIRECTED THE PARATROOPERS INTO AN AREA

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WHERE THEY WERE WAITING FOR THEM. WHEN HE (MATJANI) LANDED HE FOUND THE SIGURIMI WAITING. REF B REQUESTED HQS ADVISE IF ILMI, AHMET, AND SHAQUIR KABASHI WERE INDEED MEMBERS OF THE BGFIEND PROJECT. WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE A RESPONSE TO REF B.

B. REF C REPORTED THAT THE 2 OCT 93 EDITION OF "GAZETA SHQIPTARE" CONTAINED ANOTHER ARTICLE ON THE BGFIEND PROJECT. THE HEADLINE READ "SOMEONE BETRAYED CIA", WITH SUBHEADLINE "ITALIAN INTELLIGENCE HELPED HOXHA?" THE ARTICLE STARTS BY MENTIONING THE BROTHERS ((KABASHI)) WHOSE BONES WERE RECENTLY FOUND IN FIER, AND THEN GOES ON TO QUESTION WHO THE GUILTY PARTY WAS FOR THE FAILURE OF THE OPERATION. THE ARTICLE ANSWERS THE QUESTION BY STATING THAT KIM PHILBY WAS THE MAIN GUILTY PARTY BUT THEN NOTES THAT HE WAS ONLY ACTIVE UNTIL 1951 AND THE OPERATION WENT ON FOR TWO MORE YEARS WITH THE SAME DEGREE OF FAILURE. IT THEN GOES ON TO SUGGEST THAT ITALIAN INTELLIGENCE SERVICE MAY HAVE BEEN INFORMING THE COMMUNISTS ABOUT THE PROJECT.

3. IN THE EVENT COS HAS CONTACT WITH HABIB BEFORE WE CAN PUT TOGETHER OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE VALIDITY OF HIS CLAIM, COS MAY WISH TO REQUEST:

A. ADDITIONAL DETAILS/ACCOUNTS RE AHMET KABASHI'S PARTICIPATION IN BGFIEND, TO INCLUDE THE NAMES OF OTHERS WITH WHOM AHMET TRAINED AND PARACHUTED INTO ALBANIA.

B. NEWSPAPER ARTICLES OR DOCUMENTS SUPPORTING HABIB'S CLAIM THAT HIS FATHER, AHMET, WORKED WITH CIA TO OVERTHROW THE HOXHA REGIME OR RE AHMET KABASHI'S TRIAL/IMPRISONMENT.

4. ONCE WE HAVE CONFIRMATION THAT AHMET WAS INDEED AFFILIATED WITH CIA, WE WOULD SUGGEST COS ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE FOLLOWING FROM HABIB, WHERE POSSIBLE:

A. DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING HABIB'S CLAIM THAT HIS MOTHER IS DECEASED AND THAT SHE WAS THE WIFE OF AHMET: DEATH CERTIFICATE, OBITUARY, MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE, ETC.

B. COMPLETE DETAILS ON ALL OF HABIB'S SIBLINGS AS WELL AS ANY OTHER WIVES AHMET MAY HAVE HAD.

C. DOCUMENTATION SUPPORTING HABIB'S CLAIM THAT HE IS THE SON OF AHMET.

5. AS STATION MAY BE AWARE, COMPENSATION IS GRANTED IN THE FOLLOWING ORDER: FIRST, TO THE PARTICIPANT IN THE BGFIEND PROGRAM; THEN, IF DECEASED, TO ANY SURVIVING SPOUSE(S), DIVIDED EQUALLY; THEN, IF DECEASED, TO ANY SURVIVING CHILDREN, DIVIDED EQUALLY. THUS, THE INFORMATION REQUESTED IN PARA 4 ABOVE IS RELEVANT.

6. FILE: NONE. CL BY: [] [], CL REASON: 1.5C, DECL ON: X1, DRV FROM: HUM 4-82.

CABLETYPE: GECO STAFF 1.0.2.>

RELNO: DORELS0100499368

ORIG: CE/BOGYA [] [] 74019); REL: C/CE/BOGYA [] []

END OF MESSAGE

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